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IN THE CLAIMS

A complete listing of the claims follows and replaces any prior versions.

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A data recording media comprising servo information 2 recorded on servo tracks interspersed between a plurality of extended format sectors, the 3 extended format sectors comprising a user data sector field for storing user data and a backup indicator field for indicating the status of the user data sector field. 4 1 2. (Original) The data recording media of claim 1 wherein the backup 2 indicator field indicates whether the user data in the user data sector field has been written to 3 backup storage subsequent to a previous backup operation.
- 1 3. The data recording media of claim 1 wherein the backup (Original) 2 indicator comprises a single bit.
- 1 4. (Original) The data recording media of claim 1 wherein the backup 2 indicator comprises an indicator of whether the user data in the user data sector field has been 3 written to backup storage subsequent to a previous backup operation and data indicating the 4 age of the user data in the user data sector field.
- 1 5. The data recording media of claim 1 wherein the backup (Original) 2 indicator indicates whether the user data sector field has been written to.

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1 6. (Original) A data storage system, comprising: 2 a magnetic storage medium having servo information recorded on servo tracks 3 interspersed between a plurality of extended format sectors; 4 a motor for moving the magnetic storage medium relative to a magnetic head 5 assembly; and 6 a head assembly having at least one read head for reading and writing data on the a 7 plurality of extended format sectors; 8 wherein the extended format sectors further comprises: 9 a user data sector field for storing user data; and 10 a backup indicator field for indicating the status of the user data sector field. 1 7. (Original) The data storage system of claim 6 wherein the backup 2 indicator field indicates whether the user data in the user data sector field has been written to 3 backup storage subsequent to a previous backup operation. 1 8. The data storage system of claim 6 wherein the backup (Original) 2 indicator comprises a single bit. 1 9. (Original) The data storage system of claim 6 wherein the backup 2 indicator comprises an indicator of whether the user data in the user data sector field has been 3 written to backup storage subsequent to a previous backup operation and data indicating the 4 age of the user data in the user data sector field.

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(Original)

indicator indicates whether the user data sector field has been written to. 2 1 11. (Original) A data storage system, comprising: 2 a host computer system; 3 a first set of storage volumes; 4 a second set of storage volumes for backing-up data from the first set of storage 5 volumes; and 6 a controller for controlling the transfer of data from the host system to the first and 7 second set of storage volumes, wherein at least the first set of storage volumes further 8 comprises data recording media including a plurality of extended format sectors, the 9 extended format sectors comprising a user data sector field for storing user data and a backup 10 indicator field for indicating the status of the user data sector field. 1 12. (Original) The data storage system of claim 11 wherein the backup 2 indicator field indicates whether the user data in the user data sector field has been written to 3 backup storage subsequent to a previous backup operation. 1 13. (Original) The data storage system of claim 11 wherein the backup 2 indicator comprises a single bit.

The data storage system of claim 6 wherein the backup

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- 1 14. (Original) The data storage system of claim 11 wherein the backup
- 2 indicator comprises an indicator of whether the user data in the user data sector field has been
- 3 written to backup storage subsequent to a previous backup operation and data indicating the
- 4 age of the user data in the user data sector field.
- 1 15. (Original) The data storage system of claim 11 wherein the backup
- 2 indicator indicates whether the user data sector field has been written to.
- 1 16. (Original) The data storage system of claim 12 wherein the first set of
- 2 storage volumes is arranged as a virtual space wherein the host views the configuration as
- 3 being a storage device having a first predetermined size and the controller allocates storage
- 4 space from the first set of storage volumes having a physically smaller size than viewed by
- 5 the host.
- 1 17. (Original) The data storage system of claim 16 wherein the controller
- 2 periodically determines which sectors have been written using the backup indicator to predict
- 3 when the host will need additional physical space.
- 1 18. (Original) The data storage system of claim 16 wherein the controller
- 2 allocates additional storage space on the first set of storage volumes before the host requires
- 3 additional storage space to minimize delays to the host.
- 1 19. (Original) The data storage system of claim 18 wherein the controller
- 2 reads the backup indicator to determine when a usage threshold have been exceeded.

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each subsequent backup.

1	20.	(Currently Amended) A method for tracking the status of writes to areas of a		
2	storage device, comprising:			
3	a)	initializing a storage system and clearing a backup indicator field in an		
4	extended format sector used for indicating the status of a user data sector field of the			
5	extended format sector;			
6	b)	setting the backup indicator when a host writes to a user data sector field; and		
7	c)	reading every sector included in a host user area of [[the]] a system drive and		
8	backing-up only user data sector field in the extended format sectors having the backup			
9	indicator field set.			
1	21.	(Original)	The method of claim 20 further comprising:	
2	d)	clearing the backup indicator field after the user data sector field has been		
3	backed-up.			
1	22.	(Original)	The method of claim 21 further comprising repeating b)-d) for	